

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 13-15 and 17-19 are now pending in this application, claims 1-12, 16 and 20 having been cancelled by the present Amendment. Claims 13-15 and 17-20 have been allowed.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments cancelling the non-allowed claims, it is submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance in this application is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

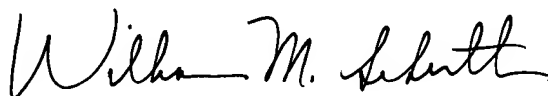
Application No. 09/895,326
Art Unit: 2611

Supplemental Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Attorney Docket No.: 010848

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Schertler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Schertler" being clearly legible.

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WMS/dlt